

# LPFM UPDATE

*Media Bureau, Audio Division, September 26, 2013*

# LPFM Order

- LPFM Fifth Order on Reconsideration and Sixth Report and Order
  - Released December 4, 2012
  - Implemented the Local Community Radio Act
  - 6350 pending translator tech box applications
  - “...to maximize LPFM filing opportunities, it is critical for the Media Bureau to complete substantially all of its processing of the pending FM translator applications prior to the opening of the LPFM window.”
  - LPFM window target date of October 15, 2013

# Bureau Public Notice Releases

- Dec 21, 2012 – Opened window for application selections and caps showings
- Jan 9, 2013 – Clarified filing requirements
- Feb 5, 2013 – Announced dismissals from applicant selections
- Feb 15, 2013 – Dismissed defective Cap filings
- Feb 26, 2013 – Opened long-form filing window #1
- March 14, 2013 – Opened window for preclusion showings
- March 18, 2013 – Provided detailed guidance on preclusion showings
- April 2, 2013 – Opened NCE deselection filing window
- May 20, 2013 – Dismissed defective preclusion showings
- May 21, 2013 – Opened settlement/amendment window for MX groups
- July 31, 2013 – Opened long-form filing window #2
- Sept 9, 2013 – Opened long-form filing window #3

# FM Translator Tech Box Summary

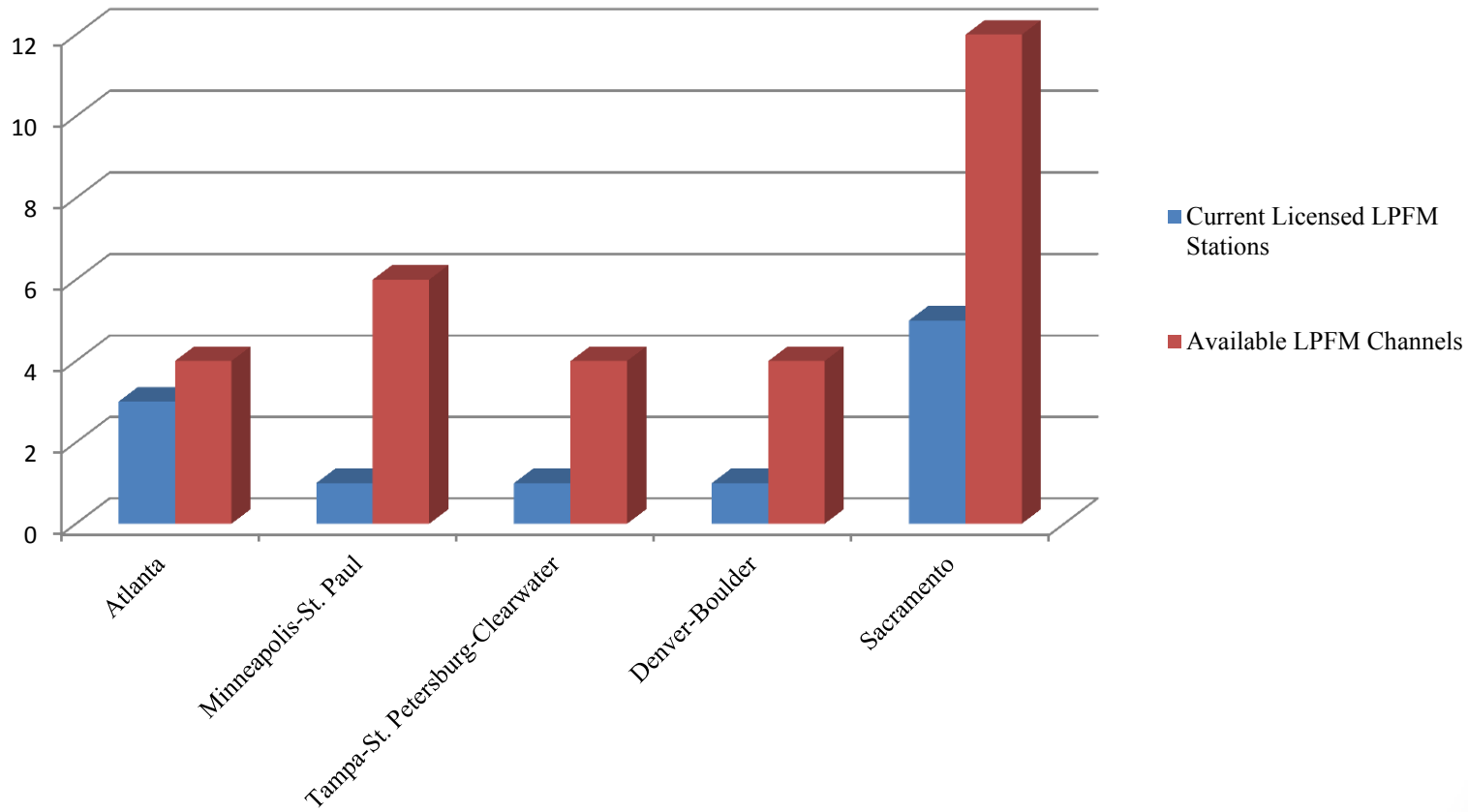
- 6350 – Pending tech boxes as of December 2012
- 4050 – Dismissed via Selection/Cap process
- 2056 – Singletons invited in various PNs
  - 713 – Feb. 26 PN
  - 1239 – July 31 PN
  - 104 – Sept. 9 PN
- < 250 Tech Boxes – primarily in MX groups that have been provided a settlement opportunity
- 8 – Total tech boxes that have NOT been:
  - Dismissed
  - Provided the opportunity to submit a long-form, or
  - Given the opportunity to submit a settlement agreement

# LPFM Filing Window

**Target Date - October 15, 2013**




# LPFM AVAILABILITY IN MAJOR MARKETS



# LPFM WEB PAGE

<http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/low-power-fm-broadcast-radio-stations-lpfm>

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Low Power FM Broadcast Radio Stations (LPFM)

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How To Apply

In the following sections, we provide some basic information about Low Power (LPFM) radio stations and the related application processes.

### Contents

- Introduction
- LPFM Filing Window Periods
- Find LPFM Records via the FM Query
- LPFM Channel Finder
- LPFM Notes
- LPFM Service Rules
- Related Information
- LPFM Documents (includes recent items)
- Webinars on Low Power FM Radio - Aug. 20, 2013 and early Oct. (separate document)

Introduction


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The Low Power FM (LPFM) radio service was created by the Commission in January 2000. LPFM stations are authorized for noncommercial educational broadcasting only (no commercial operation) and operate with an effective radiated power (ERP) of 100 watts (0.1 kilowatts) or less, with maximum facilities of 100 watts ERP at 30 meters (100 feet) antenna height above average terrain (HAAT). The approximate service range of a 100 watt LPFM station is 5.6 kilometers (3.5 miles radius). LPFM stations are not protected from interference that may be received from other classes of FM stations. A construction permit is required before an LPFM station can be constructed or operated. The mere filing of an LPFM application does not authorize any construction or operation.

LPFM stations are available to noncommercial educational entities and public safety and transportation organizations, but are not available to individuals or for commercial operations. Current broadcast licensees with interests in other media (broadcast or

FCC Highlights

FY 2013 Regulatory Fees



FY 2013 Regulatory Fees are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Sept. 20 2013.


Quick Links

- Adding Local Voices to the Radio Airwaves
- Webinars on Low Power FM Radio
- LPFM License Application Process-FAQs
- Low Power Broadcast Radio Stations
- Low Power FM Channel Finder
- LPFM Rules
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Related Guides & Help

# LPFM FAQs



<http://www.fcc.gov/guides/lpfm-frequently-asked-questions>



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Guide



## LPFM License Application Process - Frequently Asked Questions

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will accept electronically filed low power FM (LPFM) license applications for new LPFM stations from October 15 – October 29, 2013. To help consumers with the filing process, here are answers to some commonly asked questions. Because these FAQs do not cover every aspect of the LPFM service, please make sure you read and understand all the rules before you apply (the link for the rules is at the end of this document).

We strongly encourage you to review the LPFM application form and instructions before the window opens. If you have general questions that are not covered below, please submit them in detail to [lpfm@fcc.gov](mailto:lpfm@fcc.gov).

**Q: How can I tell if there is a frequency available at my desired location?**

**A:** The FCC's Media Bureau has a tool to help determine whether there is an available FM channel for an LPFM station at a specific site. The tool can be found at [http://transition.fcc.gov/mb/audio/lpfm/lpfm\\_channel\\_finder.html](http://transition.fcc.gov/mb/audio/lpfm/lpfm_channel_finder.html). It is your responsibility to find a channel (frequency)/location combination that complies with the FCC protection requirements.

Please keep in mind that in some areas spectrum will be scarce, such as in a number of larger markets, so no frequencies may be available at your desired location.

**Q: How far will the signal go?**




**A:** LPFM stations are limited to 100 watts and a service range of 5.6 kilometers (3.5 mile radius). This does not mean that the station cannot be heard beyond a 3.5 mile radius.

### Quick Links

- [Adding Local Voices to the Radio Airwaves](#)
- [News Release-Webinars on Low Power FM Radio](#)
- [Webinars on Low Power FM Radio](#)
- [Low Power Broadcast Radio Stations](#)
- [Low Power FM Broadcast Radio Stations \(LPFM\)](#)
- [Low Power FM Channel Finder](#)
- [LPFM Rules](#)
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### Related Information

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-  [H Block Auction Procedures, Dates and Filing Requirements](#)
-  [Commissioner Pai Keynote at the LGBT Technology Forum](#)
-  [Workshop on TV Broadcast Relocation Fund...](#)

# LPFM BLOG

<http://www.fcc.gov/blog/adding-local-voices-radio-airwaves>

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Official FCC Blog

## Adding Local Voices to the Radio Airwaves


by: **Bill Lake**, Chief, Media Bureau  
August 12, 2013

The FCC recently [announced](#) that it will accept LPFM license applications between October 15, 2013 and October 29, 2013. I am extremely excited about the new opportunities presented by the window, which is the result of the Local Community Radio Act of 2010 and the work of the Commission to implement that legislation.


As Acting FCC Chairwoman Clyburn recently said: "Local groups across the country will have a unique opportunity in October to apply for a license to provide LPFM radio broadcast services to their communities."

The LPFM service was initially established in 2000 to create opportunities for new voices to be heard on the radio. The FCC envisioned LPFM stations would serve very localized communities of underrepresented groups within those communities. An LPFM station can be authorized to operate with up to 100 watts and will typically have a service radius of approximately three and one-half miles. LPFM stations are available to local, nonprofit educational entities, Tribes, and public safety organizations, but are not available to individuals or for commercial operations. LPFM stations are authorized for noncommercial educational broadcasting only, and LPFM licenses generally cannot own or have an interest in any other broadcast stations.

The October window is a "unique opportunity" to add new and local voices to the airwaves, especially since the last LPFM window was held over ten years ago. The FCC is committed to creating a thriving LPFM service and is providing various tools and resources to assist in the application process. For example, information regarding the application process can be found in the [Public Notice](#) announcing the window. The [LPFM channel finder](#) can help applicants determine if a frequency is available at a specific site for a future LPFM station. Additionally, we have compiled a list of [Frequently Asked](#)

 Blog Categories


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[Consumers](#)  
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[Media Marketplace](#)  
[National Broadband Plan](#)  
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[Spectrum](#)  
[Tools & Data](#)  
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[July 2013 \(4\)](#)  
[June 2013 \(5\)](#)  
[May 2013 \(11\)](#)  
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[March 2013 \(6\)](#)

# LPFM WEBINAR

<http://www.fcc.gov/events/webinars-low-power-fm-radio>

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**Webinars on Low Power FM Radio**

August 20, 2013, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EDT



The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced it will hold two webinars to answer questions about low power FM (LPFM) and the process for applying for a new LPFM license during the October 15 - October 29, 2013 open filing window. The LPFM service was established in 2000 to create opportunities for new voices to be heard on the radio.

The first webinar was held August 20th. Areas that were covered included: an overview of the low power radio service; how to use the Commission's LPFM Channel Finder; instructions on creating a CDBS account; and how to fill out the application (Form 318).

 Quick Links

[Adding Local Voices to the Radio Airwaves](#)

[News Release-Webinars on Low Power FM Radio](#)


[LPFM License Application Process-FAQs](#)


[Low Power Broadcast Radio Stations](#)

[Low Power FM Broadcast Radio Stations \(LPFM\)](#)


[Low Power FM Channel Finder](#)

[LPFM Rules](#)

 FCC Calendar

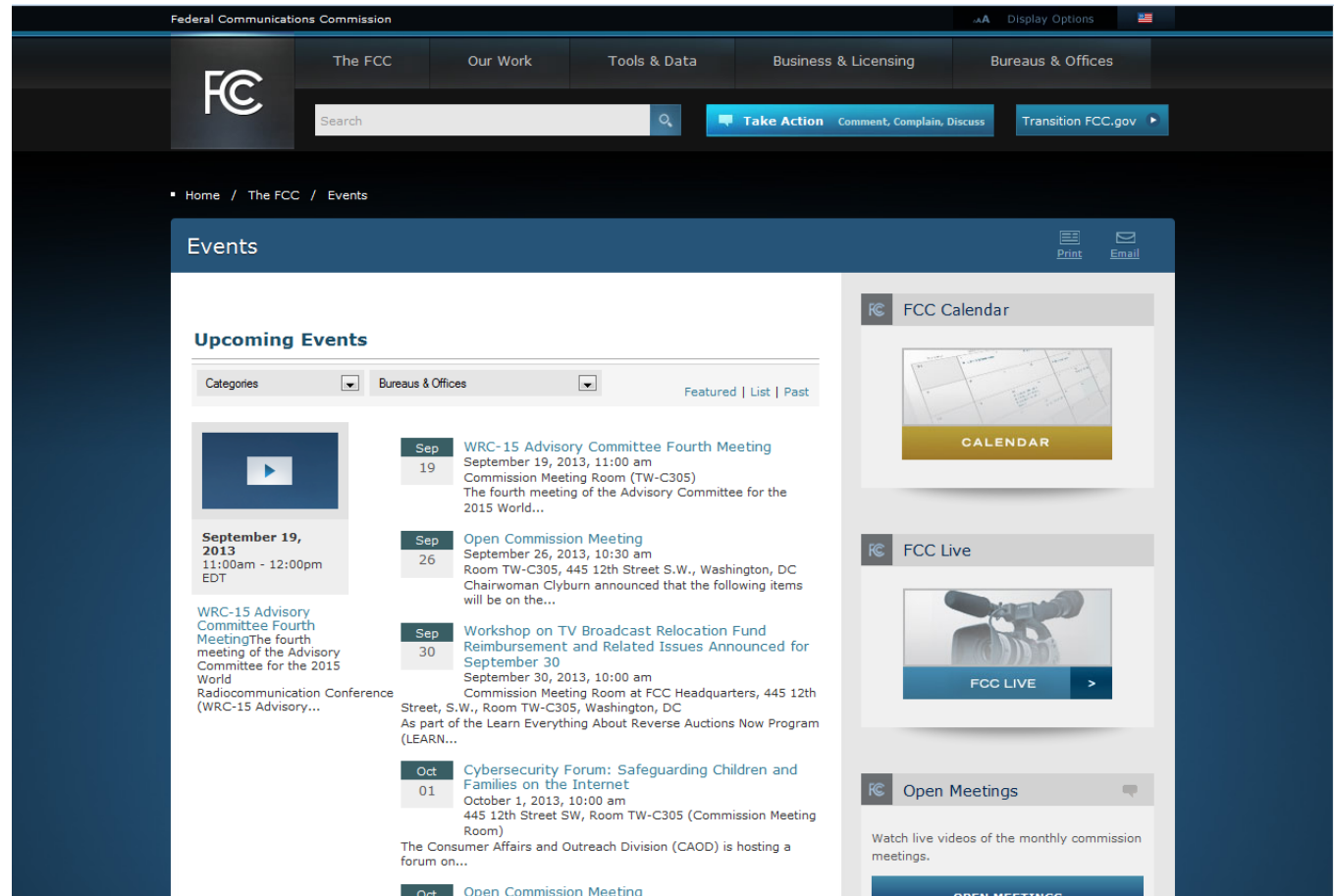


CALENDAR

 Related Information

# Next Webinar: October 3, 2013, 1 P.M. EST

## fcc.gov/events



The screenshot shows the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website's Events page. The header includes the FCC logo, navigation links (The FCC, Our Work, Tools & Data, Business & Licensing, Bureaus & Offices), a search bar, and buttons for 'Take Action', 'Comment, Complain, Discuss', and 'Transition FCC.gov'. The main content area is titled 'Events' and features a sidebar with 'Upcoming Events' and a main section with a list of events. The sidebar includes a video player for the 'September 19, 2013' event. The main section lists several events, including the 'WRC-15 Advisory Committee Fourth Meeting' on September 19, 2013, and the 'Open Commission Meeting' on September 26, 2013. The right sidebar contains links to the 'FCC Calendar', 'FCC Live', and 'Open Meetings'.

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### Events

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#### Upcoming Events

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**September 19, 2013**  
11:00am - 12:00pm EDT

WRC-15 Advisory Committee Fourth Meeting  
The fourth meeting of the Advisory Committee for the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15 Advisory...)

**Sep 19** **WRC-15 Advisory Committee Fourth Meeting**  
September 19, 2013, 11:00 am  
Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305)  
The fourth meeting of the Advisory Committee for the 2015 World...

**Sep 26** **Open Commission Meeting**  
September 26, 2013, 10:30 am  
Room TW-C305, 445 12th Street S.W., Washington, DC  
Chairwoman Clyburn announced that the following items will be on the...

**Sep 30** **Workshop on TV Broadcast Relocation Fund Reimbursement and Related Issues Announced for September 30**  
September 30, 2013, 10:00 am  
Commission Meeting Room at FCC Headquarters, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-C305, Washington, DC  
As part of the Learn Everything About Reverse Auctions Now Program (LEARN...

**Oct 01** **Cybersecurity Forum: Safeguarding Children and Families on the Internet**  
October 1, 2013, 10:00 am  
445 12th Street SW, Room TW-C305 (Commission Meeting Room)  
The Consumer Affairs and Outreach Division (CAOD) is hosting a forum on...

**Oct** **Open Commission Meeting**

#### FCC Calendar

CALENDAR

#### FCC Live

FCC LIVE

#### Open Meetings

Watch live videos of the monthly commission meetings.

OPEN MEETINGS

# ASSISTANCE

- **Phone: 202-418-2700**
- **E-Mail: [LPFM@fcc.gov](mailto:LPFM@fcc.gov)**
- **Twitter: #LPFMquestions**